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**Pacific Southwest Research Station, Albany, CA 94710**

## **Grulke in Austria: A First Hand Report**

*For Nancy Grulke, it was like old times being back in the classroom. A former university professor, Nancy spent last fall at the University of Graz, Austria, teaching, researching, and writing. At PSW, she is a research plant physiologist with the Atmospheric Deposition Research Unit, at Riverside. Here is her first-hand report:*

Last fall, I was invited by Michael Tausz to be a guest professor at the University of Graz, which is south of Vienna, Austria. Michael is an associate professor at the University's Institute of Plant Physiology and had visited the Station's Forest Fire Laboratory at Riverside in 1999, and worked with the Atmospheric Deposition Research Unit. Since then, he has continued to be a close collaborator with PSW scientists at the Riverside laboratory.

From Oct. 2 to Dec. 5, Michael and I taught a course on "Topics in Stress Physiology," 2 hours a week, for 7 weeks, to graduate students. I lectured in English (no jokes, no slang—this was hard for me!), and Michael lectured in German. He also helped translate and explain the technical terms as well as some of the statistical approaches that we both use in our research. The students asked questions in both languages. Some of the time, I could understand them well enough to answer directly, at other times, they had to be translated. I was able to contribute directly, in English, to Michael's part of the lecture in German. Sometimes I had interpreted correctly, sometimes not! The students did not seem to think it was schizophrenic to use two languages back and forth in the same lecture.

Michael applied to the University for the grant that supported my trip. The University had faculty housing so I lived in one-eighth of a converted mansion, in the middle of a wooded park, about a 10-minute walk from the Institute. Unlike Sequoia National Park, in California, where I often work, no bears or lions are found in the European woods.

The Institute had been recently remodeled. It had an in-house greenhouse on one side of the building, state-of-the-art laboratories and equipment, and a library that had most everything I needed. A second-story glass walkway between the new and old sections of the building lit up as you walked through it at night, and added a nice touch. The working environment was great at the Institute—they also had an in-house espresso machine. I completed quite a few papers, including three collaborative papers with Michael.

While in Europe, I visited several other countries. I visited the genetics laboratory of Professor Wieslaw Prus-Glowacki, Adam Mickiewicz University, in Poznan, Poland. I also visited the dendrology laboratory in Kornik, Poland, which is similar to laboratories at the Station's Institute of Forest Genetics at Placerville, Calif. While in Poland, I presented a paper on "Canopy O<sub>3</sub> Uptake and Foliar Injury Response of Jeffrey Pine" (Continued on page 2)

## **Director Calls Meeting on FY2003 Budget Impacts**

Station Director Hilda Diaz-Soltero will meet with the Station executives and managers to discuss possible impacts on the Station by the President's proposed FS 2003 budget. The meeting will be held on Feb. 4, in Albany. Scheduled to attend are all Assistant Station Directors, Program Managers, Project Leaders, Team Leaders, and Group Leaders. Invited to attend are the chairpersons of the Civil Rights Committee and Partnership Council, and the Local Union Representative.

## **More FS Leadership Changes Announced**

Three more changes in the FS Washington Office staff were recently announced: Joel Holtrop as Deputy Chief—State and Private Forestry; Gloria Manning as Associate Deputy Chief—National Forest System; and Paul Brouha as Director of Strategic Planning and Resource Assessment.

Joel, who joined the FS in 1977 as a forester, succeeds Michael Rains. His most recent position was Director of Watershed, Fish, Wildlife and Rare Plants for the agency. He earned forestry degrees—bachelor's at Michigan State University, and master's at the University of Washington.

Until her new assignment as successor to Paul Brouha, Gloria was Associate Deputy Chief—Business Operations. She began her FS career as a forest planner in 1979. She received her bachelor's degree from Florida A&M University, and her master's from Florida State University.

Paul is a former executive director of the American Fisheries Association and joined the FS in 1980 as a fisheries biologist with the Shasta-Trinity National Forest, in Redding, Calif. He received a bachelor's degree in science at Pennsylvania State University and a master's degree from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

## **Editor's Note**

*For Your Information* (FYI) has been issued continuously as the Station's newsletter for the past 35 years. With the growth of electronic communication, it is changing its internal method of distribution. Starting with the next issue, the primary form of distribution will be electronic notification with a link to FYI on the web. If you would rather receive FYI as an electronic document attachment to a message than as a link in a message, please let me know. And if you wish to continue to receive a hardcopy of FYI, also let me know.

Vince Dong, editor, FYI

## **In Memoriam**

Margie C. Warren, who worked as a personnel clerk at PSW, in Berkeley from 1965 to 1978, died at age 84, in Auburn, Calif. Born in Dallas, Tex., she moved to Pleasant Hill, Calif., in 1945, and then to Grass Valley, Calif., after leaving the Station. Her

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Needles” at an international meeting on responses of plant metabolism to pollution and global change, in Pulawy, Nov. 1-4.

I also gave talks to the Austrian Forest Service, in Vienna, Austria, the Ecology Department, University of Munich, Germany, and the Forest Pathology Institute, Italian Forest Service, Florence, Italy. These talks summarized two papers (on an empirical model of ozone uptake, and on the effects of ozone exposure and drought stress on ponderosa pine) recently accepted by *Environmental Pollution* and *New Phytologist*, and written in collaboration with Haiganoush Preisler, a mathematical statistician at PSW.

The trip was well worth the interruption to my family life. It was especially rewarding to be back in an academic setting with students asking interesting questions. The warmth of the hospitality I experienced was wunderbar (German for “wonderful”). It was “old world” class at its best.

### Thrift Savings Plan Open Season Ends Jan. 31

The open season for the Thrift Savings Plan, which started on Nov. 15, closes on Jan. 31. This volunteer retirement savings and investment plans is for employees under the Federal Employees Retirement System and the Civil Service Retirement System. The agency contributes to the program for FERS employees, but not for CSRS employees. For further information about the program, call Karen Diaz, Human Resources Group, Albany (510-559-6358).

### Riverside Thanked for Toy Contributions

Employees at the Station’s Forest Fire Laboratory were profusely thanked for their contribution of toys to the Centro de Ninos. During the holiday season last month, they collected 60 toys for delivery to the Centro de Ninos. Says Armando Gonzalez-Caban, who on behalf of the Forest Fire Laboratory’s Hispanic Committee, coordinated the toy drive, “I can attest to the children’s happiness when they received their toys.”

### Personnelly Speaking

#### *Name Change*

- Kelly L. Duncan, Honolulu; to Kelly L. Kedge

#### *Appointment*

- Mark Mechodom, Sierra Nevada Research Center, Sacramento; to Civil Rights Committee for 2-year term.

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(Warren—continued)

husband, William, died in 1988. She is survived by a son, three daughters, 11 grandchildren, and 8 great grandchildren. Memorial services were held in Grass Valley, on Jan. 13.

### New to PSW

For **Lucinda (“Cindy”) J. Ballard**, who joined the Station’s Budget and Financial Management Group, Albany, on Oct. 9, it was a return home. Born in San Francisco, she and her family lived in several communities in the Bay Area. Cindy holds two A.A. degrees—one in accounting from Chabot College, in Oakland, and the other in business management from Solano College.

An accountant, Cindy applied for her current job while she was working for the U.S. Defense Finance and Accounting Service, at Yokota Air Base, near Tokyo. She worked at the agency’s Oakland Office from 1988 to 1998, and in Japan for the next 3 years.

Cindy’s husband, Charles, works as a communications technician for Pacific Bell, and they have four children: Charles 24; Curtis, 19; Derek, 7; and Samantha, 5. They live in Oakland.

The biggest adjustment she has had to make at PSW, according to Cindy, is working for a smaller organization, after having experienced working in a much larger one.

**Joan P. Cravens** fills the reestablished permanent part-time position of Editorial Assistant. She reported to the Research Information Services Group, in Albany, on Dec. 3. Joan brings to the job a wide range of publishing and marketing experience, including working as a writer/editor of magazines, books, newsletters, and related products for Meredith/Craftways Corp., from 1977-93 in Des Moines, Iowa, and Richmond, Calif. Since 1993, Joan has been an independent editorial/marketing consultant and sponsor of a needlecraft show.

She earned a B.S. degree in political science at the University of Washington, and an M.A. degree in English at Ohio State University. She lives in Benicia, as does her son, Christopher. Her daughter Heather lives in Sacramento.

As a long-time independent contractor, Joan says she is enjoying being back in an office full of pleasant people at PSW.